

Iran closes all mission schools

TEHRAN, July 16 (R) — The Iranian government has decided to close all mission schools in the country after documents found in one such Catholic institution indicated links with Israel, a news agency reported today. It said the director-general of the education department, Mr. Hussein Khorshnevisan, told the agency that a well-known missionary school, Andisheh, was closed yesterday after documents discovered there earlier indicated a connection between the Catholic priest in charge and the Iranian government. The documents had been taken for examination and the school directors, meanwhile, were under investigation and barred from leaving the country, the education ministry said. In a separate report, Pars quoted the Iranian foreign minister as saying Greek Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, in Iran, had denied the accusations against the Andisheh school.

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Lebanese government resigns; PLO to mobilise

BEIRUT, July 16 (Agencies) — Lebanon's internal stresses multiplied today as the prime minister's resignation was accepted, the right-Falangists announced plans for

their own legislative assembly, and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat revealed an impending general mobilisation of Palestinian forces in Lebanon.

Minister Salim Al Hoss resigned his government's post on June 7 but President Elias Arafat had deferred a decision on it.

Youssef Jubran announced resignation after a cabinet meeting. Hoss had stayed on in a capacity while President Arafat consulted the heads of parties and paramilitary groups on the formation of a new government.

These differences have been compounded by inter-Christian and inter-Muslim clashes in the last six months, the latest being last week's mini-war between Lebanon's largest Christian private army, the Kata'ib, and the Falangist Party as the undisputed military master of mostly Christian East Beirut.

The Falangist drive, in which the "Tigers" militia of former President Camille Chamoun was wiped out, triggered fears among leftists and Palestinians of a possible declaration of an autonomous Christian state in East Beirut and the neighbouring Christian hinterland.

Death penalties await some in Iranian coup plot

TEHRAN, July 16 (R) — Iran sealed off its frontiers today and President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr announced that alleged conspirators in a plot against the government would go on trial shortly.

At the same time, Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, leader of the clergy-dominated Islamic Republic Party (IRP), told a press conference: "Some of them will receive the death penalty."

The travel ban, closing Iran's land, sea and air borders, was imposed for 48 hours early today to prevent any of those accused of conspiracy from escaping abroad.

President Bani-Sadr stated last Thursday that a coup attempt had been uncovered. A reliable source in the president's office said he believed about 320 people, many of them military personnel, had been arrested for their roles in the alleged plot and 100 more might be at large.

The president said today after a 30-minute meeting with revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini that some of the accused would go on trial "today or tomorrow" — a Persian expression which also means "very soon."

He added that they would be dealt with "decisively."

Ayatollah Beheshti said the court would receive documentary evidence of foreign involvement.

The Iranian government has said the United States, Israel and Iraq were implicated in the plot, which was intended to bring back the former Shah's last prime minister, Dr. Shapour Bakhtiar, now living in exile in Paris.

The coup was also reported to have included plans to bomb Ayatollah Khomeini's home in Tehran and other key targets.

Ayatollah Beheshti, who is secretary of the Revolutionary Council and head of the supreme court, told the press conference: "We are trying to discover many other members of this coup."

The unusual step of sealing all the nation's frontiers raised a number of questions about the way it was done and the effects of the order.

Last night the state radio announced a seven-day ban, on the authority of the revolutionary prosecutor-general, to block the flight of conspirators still at large.

Later, following a meeting of the ruling Revolutionary Council, President Bani-Sadr's office said the order would remain in effect for only 48 hours.

Since it was unclear precisely what time Tehran's Mehrabad Airport would re-open, some airline managers said they did not know whether to recommend going ahead with flights due to land in the early hours of Friday morning.

Travellers with reservations on flights grounded by the ban crowded into ticket offices in a quest for seats on later flights, which were already heavily booked.

Oil Minister Ali Akbar Moinefar said the arrival and departure of oil tankers would not be affected by the 48-hour border closure.

"We did not see any instructions to halt the loading," he told Reuters. "It is unaffected."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said today Turkey had agreed to hand back a helicopter in which two Iranian lieutenants fled the country last Friday, the day after the coup was made public. But an Iranian request for the extradition of the officers was still under study, the ministry said.

CAIRO, July 16 (AP) — The former Shah of Iran underwent "limited surgery" today to clean a new abscess that had formed on his thigh, one of his doctors said.

"It's something small, nothing serious," said an Egyptian doctor on the team treating ex-Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. "It can hardly be called an operation."

The doctor, who declined use of his name, told the Associated Press that the former Shah's condition had "improved after the lancing" and he was "fine."

The Cairo daily Al-Ahram reported today that the former Shah had undergone surgery at dawn to "drain a new abscess that had formed on his right thigh."

The semi-official paper said the infection had given the ex-Shah a fever of 39 degrees Centigrade and had caused his entire leg to swell.

The specialist said the fever had now gone down to 38 degrees Centigrade (100.4°F) and was expected "to go down even more tomorrow."

He said the swelling was just in the area around the infection, not the entire leg, and was rapidly diminishing.

Shah spokesman Mark Morse said yesterday that doctors had taken a blood sample from the former Shah's leg in a routine test and the area had become inflamed.

Al-Ahram Wednesday described the abscess at the top of the leg as being the "size of an orange," and said doctors were worried about the pressure of the infection causing a blood clot and blocking circulation.

"Whenever there's a concentration of pus around a main artery the fear of a clot is always there," the Egyptian doctor said, "but nothing happened and it's all right now."

If Tel Aviv ignores resolution Israeli ouster from U.N. may be Arabs' demand

UNITED NATIONS, July 16 (AP) — An Arab League spokesman said the Arab countries might call for Israel's expulsion from the U.N. General Assembly if Israel flouted a resolution

the Assembly is expected to pass soon demanding that it give up all occupied Arab territories and make room for a Palestinian state.

"That's one of the options," said Mr. Clovis Maksoud, the League's U.N. observer, when asked Tuesday night whether expulsion was a weapon the Arabs might use to press Israel to comply with the proposed resolution.

Mr. Maksoud stated the Arab position at a news conference here a week before the start of an emergency session of the general assembly on Palestine called by the U.N. Palestinian Rights Committee.

A large Third World and Communist majority voted to expel South Africa from the Assembly for its racial and colonial policies

at sessions in 1974 and 1979. The supposition is that the Arabs could get a similar majority to expel Israel for its occupation policies.

Mr. Maksoud said a large number of foreign ministers and Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, "will be participating personally in this very important landmark session."

Mr. Maksoud said he expected the resolution would be before the Assembly when the session begins next Tuesday.

He said the Arab group had added a provision that would have the Assembly suspend the

emergency session temporarily, rather than close it, and authorise its president to reconvene the session "as and when necessary."

He also disclosed another new provision whereby the Assembly would express its opposition "to all policies and plans aimed at the resettlement of Palestinians outside their homeland." Mr. Salim Ahmad Salim of Tanzania, president of the Assembly's 1979 regular session and its January emergency session on Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, is expected to be elected to preside over the coming emergency session.

Sadat's to blame, Begin says, for stalemate in autonomy talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16 (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin says that if Egypt adhered to the terms of the Camp David peace accord, agreement on autonomy could be reached within days.

Mr. Begin was reacting yesterday to a statement by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who said the autonomy talks could be successfully concluded if Mr. Begin agreed to give up the occupied West Bank.

"Agreement at the autonomy talks could be reached in days, maybe even hours, if President Sadat were to instruct his delegation not to put forward proposals which contradicted the Camp David agreement," Israeli radio quoted the prime minister as saying.

Proposals that led to a re-division of Jerusalem undermined Israel's security and endangered the future of the Jewish state, he said.

Replying to charges made by President Sadat in an interview with the American Reader's Digest magazine, Mr. Begin said, "President Sadat wants me to deny my faith, that the land of Israel is the land of my forefathers. I must answer him with pride, in friendship and in peace, there is no hope I shall do so."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali today rejected Mr. Begin's assertion that Egypt had changed position on key negotiating topics like the status of Jerusalem. "All the (Israeli) declarations do not change the unchanged Egyptian position and our accurate reading of Camp David and (U.N. Resolution) 242 on which Camp David is built," Ali said.

He was speaking to reporters at the Foreign Ministry after meeting with American intermediaries in an attempt to find common ground for continuing the Pales-

tine autonomy talks. The differences focus on the treatment of the Israeli occupied Arab sector of Jerusalem, the old, walled city containing most of the shrines in the area sacred to Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

The status of Jerusalem is not mentioned specifically in the Camp David accords, signed by Mr. Begin and Mr. Sadat, which provided the basis for their peace treaty and a framework for further negotiations about territory occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war.

Mr. Begin maintains that all Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and that its status is non-

negotiable. Mr. Sadat says East Jerusalem, or the predominantly Arab sector, is part of the West Bank.

Its citizens, thus, have a right to vote in any Palestinian autonomy elections," Mr. Sadat maintains.

In his interview with Reader's Digest, Mr. Sadat said Egypt was not seeking a redivision of Jerusalem, but was calling on Israel to respect the rights of the world's 800 million Muslims to visit their holy sites as it respects the rights of the world's 16 million Jews.

Mr. Begin said Tuesday that Egypt had abandoned agreement in the Camp David accords.

In 1970 skyjacking

Layla Khaled may face extradition bid

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16 (Agencies) — Israel is considering approaching Denmark for the extradition of Palestinian hijacker Layla Khaled who is currently attending a U.N. women's conference in Copenhagen, Foreign Ministry officials said here today.

They said Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir was consulting with legal and Foreign Ministry experts on the legal issues involved. A decision was expected later today or tomorrow.

If Israel does decide to ask for extradition it would call on the Danes to place Miss Khaled under immediate arrest while extradition procedures were being implemented. Miss Khaled was involved in the attempted hijacking in 1970 of an Israeli El Al airliner to London. Israeli security guards overpowered her and handed her over to the British. She was later freed together with other jailed guerrillas in Europe.

She was also involved in the hijacking of a TWA plane to Syria the previous year.

Although Miss Khaled did not commit her acts in Israel, aiding Arab commandos is a violation of Israeli law even beyond Israel's borders. The unusual legislation has enabled Israel to try Palestinian guerrillas captured in Lebanon during Israeli raids.

A spokesman for the Danish Justice Ministry told reporters that Denmark had not received any official approach from Israel about possible extradition.

"Denmark will first consider the matter when it becomes a reality," the spokesman said, declining further comment.

Regional Briefs

BEIRUT, July 16 (R) — A general amnesty is expected soon for Lebanese political prisoners serving sentences for plotting against the regime of King Hassan II, well-informed sources said today. Amnesty is expected to coincide with the Muslim feast of 'Eid marking the end of the current month of Ramadan or with the anniversary of the "Revolution of the King and People" on August 20, the sources said. The exact number of political prisoners in Morocco is not known. Over 100 people were sentenced in January 1977 to prison terms ranging from five years to life. All accused of plotting to overthrow the monarch. A general amnesty for political prisoners has been demanded by several Lebanese organisations. They also want political exiles to be allowed to return home.

BEIRUT, July 16 (AP) — The Libyan "people's revolution" here said yesterday relations between Libya and Malta are "very delicate state" after last week's bombing of a Libyan Airlines sales office. The explosion wrecked the inside of the building. Nearby, someone attempted to set fire to the Libyan Arab Centre, police sources said. No details were available on the bombing. There were no reports of injuries. The "people's bureau," as Libya's embassy has been called since it was taken over by radical Libyans last year, denied that there were any plots to attack the Maltese embassy in Tripoli. Also denied Libya had decided to expel Maltese nationals working in the embassy. "Surely no good can come out of such rumours," the bureau said.

GRADE, July 16 (R) — Yugoslav Prime Minister Vseslav Bebutovic left today for Baghdad at the head of a delegation to mark the 20th anniversary of the Iraqi revolution.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16 (R) — The Israeli Supreme Court yesterday turned down a petition by bedouins from the Nafah area to prevent the government expropriating land near the town of Arad to build a bedouin village. The case has been before the court for a year and a half. The bedouins opposed the building of a village for them, preferring their former nomadic way of life.

BEIRUT, July 16 (R) — Algerian President Chadli Ben Jeddid's government today announced a government reorganisation which left ministers in their posts, but increased the government's President Ben Jeddid, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, named two deputy defence ministers and decreed that the armed forces staff, abolished after an abortive coup in 1967, be set up again. Mr. Abdallah Belhouichet, who became minister of defence, said the army was now under the command of the minister of defence. The other was filled by Colonel Kasdi Ouh, former head of the security services.

MOGADISHU, July 16 (R) — The Somali ambassador to Italy said today in the last three years Ethiopian Air Force planes had made 80 incursions into Somali territory, killing at least 200 people and causing massive damage. Mr. Salah Mohammad Ali, speaking at a press conference at the end of a visit by Foreign Minister Abdurrahman A. Barre, denounced what he called the "conspiracy of silence" in the border clashes between Somalia and Ethiopia. "It is a conspiracy of silence," the ambassador said after comparing the situation in Somalia with that in Afghanistan. He urged greater sensitivity of the opinion of the million and a half refugees who he said had fled to Somalia. The Somali foreign minister later left for Addis Ababa. During his visit he discussed the crises in Afghanistan, the Middle East and the Horn of Africa with Italian government leaders.

ADEN, July 16 (R) — South Yemen Foreign Minister Salim al-Mohammed was quoted here today as saying that his country's ties with the Soviet Union should not worry the countries of the Arabian Peninsula. The region's pro-West, conservative ruler had reacted adversely when Marxist South Yemen signed a friendship treaty with Moscow last November. But Mr. Mohammed said in an apparent attempt to allay Arab fears, told the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Sayass that the pact was the product of the existing bilateral relations between Aden and Moscow. "It should not affect a third party nor should it cause anyone any concern," he said in the newspaper interview. Mr. Mohammed spent a day waiting this week after visiting Qatar and Bahrain to prepare for the forthcoming tour of the two Gulf states by South Yemen's president Ali Nasser Mohammed.

Israel tries to block French sale of nuclear fuel to Iraq

TEL AVIV, July 16 (Agencies) — Israel is taking diplomatic action in an attempt to block the French sale of weapons-grade nuclear fuel to Iraq, and some experts intimated today that the production of an Arab bomb would be matched by Israel.

"Israel cannot allow itself to sit and wait for an Iraqi atomic bomb to fall on our heads," said Mr. Mattityahu Shmuelovitch, a top aide to Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Knesset member Moshe Arens said today that the United States also is lobbying with France against the impending sale. "We are active and we are in contact with the governments of the world, particularly the United States, and hopefully it's going to bring about some results," he said.

Israelis fear that once Iraq has both uranium and the French-built reactor scheduled to be completed next year, it will go ahead to develop nuclear arms.

British Member of Parliament Winston Churchill has said Israel's secret service was behind the murder of the head of Iraq's nuclear programme in Paris last month and a mysterious explosion in a French port that destroyed part of the nuclear reactor being shipped to Iraq. Israel has denied any connection to the incidents. In London today, politicians from both major British parties today protested the French nuclear sale.

But Foreign Office Junior Minister Nicholas Ridley said in Parliament that Britain had no plans to raise the issue with France. Mr. Churchill, grandson of Britain's World War II leader, has accused France of agreeing to supply highly-enriched uranium for a nuclear

power station in return for assured oil supplies.

He said it was reckless and irresponsible in the extreme to supply the uranium to a non-nuclear power.

Labour party spokesman Peter Shore today urged the Conservative government to raise the issue with France. Conservative Sir Hugh Fraser said the French action could lead to the explosion of the entire Middle East.

Israel's own nuclear capability is a closely guarded secret, despite, unconfirmed foreign reports that Israel already has or can quickly assemble a nuclear bomb.

The Israelis admit to having the technical know-how to produce a weapon. They also have an experimental reactor near Dimona in the Negev Desert capable of producing plutonium, the raw materials for nuclear weapons.

A leading Israeli nuclear physicist and a former top officer of the Mossad secret service says Iraq's nuclear reactor could be used only for developing a weapon since Iraq has no research capability and is not interested in nuclear energy.

A senior intelligence officer reported to the Knesset's foreign affairs and security committee on the danger that Iraq may develop a nuclear weapon, Israel radio said.

Committee chairman Arens said after the closed door meeting that international action could still block part of the shipment. France has already delivered the first consignment.

Otherwise, he said, "There is a good chance with the outside help they're getting from France and Italy that in several years—we don't know how long—Iraq will have nuclear weapons."

"But a strong point for us is that nuclear weapons in Iraqi hands are not just a danger to us but a danger to the whole world," he added.

Israeli experts are skeptical of any French or Iraqi guarantees that Iraq won't build nuclear weapons. The reactor they are getting gives both energy and nuclear weapons," said Mr. Shai Feldman, a researcher at Tel Aviv University's Centre for Strategic studies. "But there is no way to say for sure that there is an Iraqi decision to go the weapons route."

Mr. Feldman explained however that Iraq has many serious considerations before it opts to develop a nuclear bomb. Among those risks are:

- Endangering Iraq's international status as a signatory of nuclear non-proliferation treaties.
- The threat that neighbouring Arab countries would be led thereby to join the nuclear arms race.
- Threat of an Israeli response, as Iraq has considered Israel a nuclear power for several years.
- The possibility that Arab commando groups operating freely in Iraq could gain possession of a bomb and threaten the ruling regime.
- Possible reaction from the Soviet Union, which backs Iraq's neighbouring rival Syria.

King extols cooperation between Jordan and Iraq



AMMAN, July 16 (JNA) — Jordan and Iraq have achieved big strides in the field of cooperation and coordination, His Majesty King Hussein said today.

In an interview with the Iraqi newspaper *Al-Baath*, the King said relations between the two countries "have been developed to be mobilised in the service of the common interests of the two peoples."

These relations "will bolster the aspirations of the Arab Nation which our two countries strive to fulfill," he added.

King Hussein said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has played "an effective and positive role" in developing relations between the two countries "in the framework of strict adherence to the principles of Arab solidarity at the Baghdad summit."

He said his meetings with the Iraqi leader "for serious and sincere enhancement of cooperation between the two countries in the fields."

King Hussein said the relations between Jordan and Iraq "are a living example of a relations, which must be characterised by faithfulness, purity and continued growth."

His Majesty wished people prosperity and peace on the first anniversary of the king's appointment as head of state.



— from the Arab News, Jeddah

Demand equal treatment with Jewish inmates

Arab prisoners protest harsh conditions in Israeli jail

Editor's note: Prisoners in a special Israeli jail for Palestinian "security risks" went on a hunger strike on Monday to protest poor conditions and harsh treatment at Nafha Prison, east of Beersheba in the Naqab Desert. The Jordan Times obtained the following document in which the 74 inmates appeal "to our people, to human beings, any human being," to support their demands for better conditions and to be "treated equally with Jewish prisoners" in Israel.

TO OUR NATION, to our people in the occupied homeland, to every human being wherever he or she lives or stays. This is an appeal — Save Our Souls—for we are deliberately and intentionally killed under the pretext of so called "law".

This is exactly our situation. Here we are suffering. We have been oppressed for thirteen years during which time we have been paying with our health the price of a new aggressive tax, without having committed any crime except being your sons.

This is our crime. We are paying the price of being related to you. For 13 years we have been constantly demanding that our conditions be improved and that we should be treated in the same conditions as the Jewish prisoner whatever his guilt and whatever crime he committed.

We note that Haim Levy, the commissioner of prisons, said this year that the condition (of Jewish prisoners) in Israel's jails was "disastrous and tragic." If we are demanding to be treated according to the same tragic conditions then how can our conditions be explained? This is a truly amazing question but it is the *de facto* situation that we have been living in for the past 13 years. Let us pass on our appeal to you in a more clear way:

One of our revolutionaries met once with Haim Levy and asked him that we be treated according to the same conditions as Jewish prisoners. His reply was: "We will not offer you the same conditions; they are our sons."

That was in 1977, three years before this infamous prison—Nafha—was established. We came to this jail on May 2, 1980 to face the "miraculous miracle"... two buildings consisting of a number of cells, each of which was designed to exterminate human beings physically and mentally. From the first glance we could reflect on the ideology that is over-saturated with hatred and which has decided to build and has already established this prison as a school to teach "how to deal with the Palestinians in prison."

Who can believe that we are here, in the middle of the desert, away from any populated area, far away from polluted air? But the air we breathe is not fresh because that air, whose misfortune leads it to our cells, has no place to get out!!!

There are no windows in the cells in which eight to ten Palestinians are held. They built instead six holes in each cell. The combined area of these holes is half a square metre. They are all placed close to the roof, that is to say we can't see through them and they prevent any natural light from entering the cell. Thus we are forced to use electricity most of the day.

The door of the cell is made of iron and is tightly closed. There is a 20 x 20 centimetre window in the door. The window is divided by three 2-cm. thick bars. These windows are only opened for 12 hours during daylight and are closed at night. Even when the cells themselves turn into highly pressured rooms during the hot weather, and a hellish place, the windows are not opened. The reason they claim for not doing this is "security." Even the 12-hour period when the windows could be opened was only obtained after the mediation of a nonaligned international body.

We are relating this story to you to keep you informed of what is going on in this prison.

We have a question to put to every human being wherever he may be located. Where can you find such ventilation conditions applied to human beings, the majority of whom are sentenced to life imprisonment? Iron doors, bitterly crowded cells without windows, and inhuman treatment.

We appeal to you, our people our nation, wherever you get to know of these facts, to carry out your duty towards us in order to alleviate our suffering in these harsh conditions. We want air... we want to breathe... we want to see the colours of the Naqab sands... we

even want to smell the scent of these sands.

This prison has been built as a special "school." Hereunder we shall relate some of the incidents that have happened here so that the world can comprehend the hatred of our jailors:

1) The authorities here are proudly announcing that they offer the maximum of repression and the minimum of living conditions. "These are the orders: I am a military man and I obey orders."

2) Brigadier Dr. Cohen, the medical director in Israeli jails, visited our prison and a conversation, from which the following is excerpted, took place with him:

We: "Dr. Cohen, you are the director of health affairs. There are no doors or windows to provide decent ventilation to our cells. There are completely closed iron doors and windows which are closed at night. Food is served on the floor without a piece of plastic beneath it. We have served the past 13 years sleeping on the floor. Diseases have settled and aged within our bodies. We are served with fourth class food while your sons are served with first class food. In short our conditions are inhuman. There should be at least the minimum conditions to keep a human being alive—even if he is a Palestinian. How do you, as the official in charge of health affairs, permit this situation?"

Dr. Cohen: "The conditions are a result of higher orders."

We: "We challenge you to hold a Jewish prisoner in these conditions. We even challenge you to put 8-10 cows in the same area and allow them the same amount of air as we are allowed. Listen, Dr. Cohen, give us the same conditions as you offer your cows on the kibbutzim."

He did not respond and left the prison.

3) A Knesset delegation visited the prison. They entered one of the cells and a conversation took place. Soon afterwards the prison officer could think of no words to describe us in front of the Knesset members except "dogs." When we faced him and the Knesset members with the fact that the conditions are inhuman and were only designed to kill human beings he responded, "You liars... You keep on being liars." Even the Knesset delegation, when we protested to them against the inhuman conditions and demanded that we be treated the same as the Jewish prisoners, replied angrily: "You had to think of these conditions before you came here."

To this response, our reply was unprintable here.

To our people who are suffering from occupation, to our nation and to the progressive forces worldwide, we declare that the aim behind the building of this prison with its conditions was to physically exterminate us. We are facing a conspiracy to kill us in cold blood.

We declare that we are ready to accept the conclusions of any

non-aligned body on the conditions in the prison. Don't let us for we are part of you — we are yours. Don't let us die in the jail. We are armed only with our will.

What we need is fresh air. We want the same conditions given to Jewish prisoners. For 13 years, our demands have yielded little result. Our situation continually deteriorates.

Since 1967 we have been moved from the torment of one to the torment of another, until we came to Nafha, our location, our collective tomb, a tomb for your children. Nafha no ventilation, no natural lighting, no place to see the world. Whoever believes that law is practised here should together with us when we're blind-folded and handcuffed in the administration. We will never leave our destiny in the hands of our jailors. God will never let Jesus be crucified twice in Palestine.

After exerting all pressure within our power, via international committees with no result we have decided to declare a limited hunger strike until we are treated equally with Jewish prisoners. As you read this letter we will be on hunger strike, number less than a hundred prisoners, but our strength is determined to face our responsibilities with truth and honesty.

We present this document to you hoping that you will stand up to your responsibilities. We declare to the whole world a conspiracy to exterminate us in these desert tombs. We want to be carried out, we say yes to the suffering of starvation and the pains of submission.

Yes starvation and no submission. This statement is direct you personally asking you to stand at our side. We call on you work with us. Our unlimited hunger strike will become strike with your support. It is our last weapon. We have been pushed to the corner. We decided to suffer the pains of starvation to how much we are suffering. We have no other alternative. Matter of life or death. As you are reading our statement we being subjected to the most repressive measures and here on your role.

We have never got used to begging for our lives (which are of your lives). Therefore we will try to maintain ourselves, struggle to achieve the minimum necessities of life. We have asked for full human treatment but we have demanded a treatment which according to the Israeli authorities is "disastrous tragic."

Our health condition deteriorates constantly, even before hunger strike. We want to bargain for a few handfuls of bread with the great amounts of flesh and blood which we have during 13 years of harassing imprisonment.

We repeat our final words. We appeal to you, SOS. demand is only one: to be treated as the Jewish prisoners. support and solidarity are part of our human rights.

The Palestinian Prisoners at Nafha Prison, Naqab, July 4.

Reagan and the Mideast

ONE MUST, of course, never get one's hopes up too high about these things, but it appears that we have little indeed to feel cheerful about as Mr. Ronald Reagan savours his nomination for President of the United States while the polls show him already 15 points ahead of his expected rival, Mr. Jimmy Carter.

Even if we don't go by the predictably hawkish "platform" hammered out for Mr. Reagan by the Republican Party convention, the candidate's views on the Middle East are as well-known as they are, like everything else about the man, simplistic.

Israel, Mr. Reagan believes, is America's "greatest asset" in the Middle East (if not, one might infer, in the whole world, since in Mr. Reagan's view of things, Israel is a "deterrent to Soviet expansion" in this strategic region, including the Gulf).

Mr. Reagan has described Israel as "a stable democracy sharing our own values," which "serves as a vital strategic asset with its highly trained and experienced military forces."

Since Mr. Reagan once boasted in an interview that he felt qualified to manage the foreign affairs of the world's most powerful nation by virtue of the fact that he had for some years been writing newspaper and radio commentaries about public issues, it might seem pointless to challenge the author of the above quotation by asking:

a.) is a state that is wholly dependent on American charity, which suffers from perpetual political turmoil, industrial anarchy and raging 120 per cent inflation, and which keeps more than a million people under a ruthless and soul-destroying form of military occupation and cultural alienation in their own homeland in the name of religious fanaticism—does such a state qualify either as a "stable democracy" or as a place which any conscientious American would recognise as sharing his or her "own values"?; and

b.) does Israel in any way serve America's national interests by employing its "highly trained and experienced military forces" (with the use of massive quantities of American arms and equipment) to maintain the occupation by force of the Palestinian homeland and the sovereign territory of four Arab states, thereby earning for the United States the disaffection or outright enmity of these peoples and the Arab and Muslim peoples at large?

Taking his cues from an army of militantly pro-Zionist advisers, Mr. Reagan has furthermore ventured into specifics, by asserting that "I believe in the right of (Jewish) settlements in the West Bank" and that the Carter administration's contention that these settlements are illegal is incorrect; by favouring "an undivided Jerusalem" with "sovereignty for Israel over that city"; and by dismissing the PLO's claim to represent the Palestinian people or its rightful role in any peace negotiations.

Mr. Reagan's advisers have set their sights on the Jewish vote, in the belief that Jewish voters are disenchanted with President Carter for wringing too many "concessions" out of the Israelis in the course of the Camp David negotiations.

We thus enter something of a nightmare world when confronted with the option of either Mr. Reagan, Mr. Carter or — fresh from his campaign whistlestop in occupied Jerusalem — Mr. John Anderson, the independent candidate. There is nothing in any of this for us, or for the interests of peace in the Middle East.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Fahd has said that his country will soon embark on an Arab initiative to strengthen Arab solidarity and to eliminate anything that might weaken or affect it.

The Saudi initiative will take the form of a sustained effort, like that His Majesty King Hussein has made, to strengthen the Arab ranks—in the indispensable basis for a buildup of intrinsic Arab strength, so that the Arabs can defend their cause and do what can serve it best.

As is known, Arab solidarity is both an old and a new theme. It has come to life since the crisis in the region necessitated coordinated action to defend the Arab cause. Needless to say, enormous efforts have been made for several years to strengthen Arab solidarity and to eliminate discord. These efforts could instead have been channelled into positive action for the sake of the Arab cause, conserving time and resources.

The need to renew endeavour to protect Arab solidarity means that the Arabs have not yet been able to persuade one another to forget their differences and to organize their joint action for the sake of their cause, nor to cope with the dangers facing them.

Naturally such a situation does not make the anticipated Saudi move any less significant. On the contrary, it underlines the need for such a move. The Arabs are duty-bound to rise above their differences and sensitivities, so that they can cope with the one major obstacle facing them, namely the Israeli aggression on their lands and rights and the menace posed to their present and future generations.

The Arab summit conference will be held in Amman in November. Before the summit is convened, it is essential that the ARABS BUILD THEIR SOLIDARITY SO THAT Arab leaders can begin tackling the crucial issue, instead of wasting their time and efforts in clearing the Arab atmosphere.

We are hopeful that the Arabs will be able to appreciate the need for speedy action and make solidarity the firm basis for their relations, so that they can, every now and then, act without having first to discuss it.

AL DUSTOUR: Israel's obstinacy in rejecting all healthy foundations for and concepts of, peace is being revealed again at the futile so-called Palestinian "autonomy" talks and by the intensified policy of constructing settlements in the occupied West Bank with the aim of creating a *fait accompli* and a Zionist presence to be used by Israel as a trump card in any international

effort to achieve a just a comprehensive peace in the area.

Israel's position toward the issues of Jerusalem, withdrawal from the occupied Arab areas, the Palestinian state and self-determination for the Palestinians is known to be the outright rejection of these healthy foundations and concepts, at a time when the Arabs and the great majority of the world's peoples are insisting on the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and on the principles of right and justice.

This Israeli obstinacy, which is revealed through the statements made by Mr. Menachem Begin and his top government officials, through the Judaisation of Jerusalem, the heaping up of existing settlements and the construction of new ones, could not have been so rigid and inflexible had it not been for the United States' political, economic and military support of Israel, and for the absence of serious Arab action based on military strength and on the utilization of economic resources to compel the occupier to retreat and withdraw.

As long as the Arabs have not built their intrinsic power and the military option is out of the question—at least at present—because of the uneven balance of power, the Arabs should embark on the strategy of unified Arab action and request the United Nations to shoulder its historic responsibilities.

Therefore, the Arab Nation, in light of this situation, should attach special significance to the forthcoming session of the U.N. General Assembly which will begin next week. The Arabs should use the session to gain international support for their rights and use this support to push the United Nations forward to the point where it can impose its will and implement its resolutions.

The United Nations should impose sanctions on Israel as provided for by its charter. Similar sanctions were imposed on Rhodesia and South Africa, and proved effective against the two racist regimes. The United Nations should impose sanctions on the Zionist entity if its prestige as an organisation defending human rights and the ideals of peace are to be respected.

Greedy and expansionist Israel will not withdraw from the occupied Arab territories until it knows that continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab lands will be costly.

Arab action at the United Nations should be intelligent and realistic, and should try to create some form of alliance for peace attracting world support for the Arab position and resulting in resolutions which are beyond the purview of the Security Council—resolutions which can be supported by all states.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, July 16 (JT)—A sum of JD 2,525 kept in a bag was burned when fire engulfed a *bedouin* tent in which it was kept, a report in the local press said today. The fire, caused by a gas stove, also completely burned several pieces of furniture in the tent, but there were no casualties. The local press also reported that two suspects have been apprehended for an unconnected act of arson. They were accused of deliberately setting fire to a threshing floor. According to a spokesman for the Public Security Directorate, 18 incidents occurred in the country over the past 24 hours, resulting in the death of one person and the injury of two others. Among these, there were three road accidents.

AMMAN, July 16 (JNA)—Teams from the Department of Statistics have started enumerating industrial establishments in Jordan with the aim of collecting economic and social data. A department spokesman said information is being collected on types of products, raw material used in manufacture and machines and equipment involved. Department analysts intend to compare the information with a similar study carried out in 1975, he said. According to the department's registers, there are 5,968 industrial concerns around the country.

MOSCOW, July 16 (JNA)—The Jordanian Olympic delegation arrived yesterday to attend the Moscow Olympics, which start on July 19. Upon arrival, the delegation visited Jordan's shooting team, which has already started intensive exercises at Olympic Village. Two football teams from Algeria and Syria are also participating in the Moscow Games.

ZARQA, July 16 (JNA)—The Agricultural department here started selling 100-gramme fish hatchlings to fish farmers with the purpose of encouraging fish farming. The fish hatchlings, sold for 30 fils each, are produced at a station in Azraq and, according to a department spokesman, specialists from the Ministry of Agriculture are offering farmers guidance on raising the fish.

MAFRAQ, July 16 (JNA)—Mafraq Municipality has embarked on technical studies preliminary to establishing an industrial zone. All garages, tradesmen and craftsmen will be transferred from the city to the industrial zone in the suburbs, a municipality official said.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Painting exhibition

The Department of Culture and Arts, under the patronage of the minister of culture and youth presents an exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamdan. The exhibition is open during office hours and from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Art Gallery of the Ministry of Culture and Youth and ends today.

According to the official the feasibility study for the project expected to cost JD 300,000 and will be completed in the coming months.

AMMAN, July 16 (JNA)—A two-man delegation from the Ministry of Industry and Trade will leave for Italy tomorrow for preparing for the opening of a Jordanian commercial centre in Rome. During the visit the delegation will hold talks with Italian officials the marketing of Jordanian products in Italy and supplying food producers with information on the type of goods to be sold.

AMMAN, July 16 (JNA)—A release by the Central Bank is that private deposits with Jordanian commercial banks has amounted to JD 650,981,000. It said the figure exceeds 20.919 million that of the previous month.

AMMAN, July 16 (JNA)—The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) today endorsed loans totalling JD 499,000 to 41 agricultural projects in the country. With these loans, the ACC has granted totalling JD 2.35 million to 320 agricultural projects since the beginning of 1980. An ACC official said that about 60 per cent of the were used to finance the digging of artesian wells, the construction of modern irrigation systems and vegetable production. He estimated that the total ACC loans would reach JD 4 million by the end of the year, a record figure for the corporation.

WASHINGTON, July 16 (JNA)—The World Bank has agreed to grant Jordan a \$21 million loan to help finance its housing project was announced today. A statement issued by the bank said the loan to be paid back over a period of 17 years, has a grace period of years. Nearly 56,000 people in the Amman area will benefit from housing projects financed by the loan, the statement said.

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- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
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| 9. Masons | 10. Carpenters and other craftsmen |

If you are interested, or need the services of any of the above categories of employees, please call: 22948, P.O. Box 2073, Amman

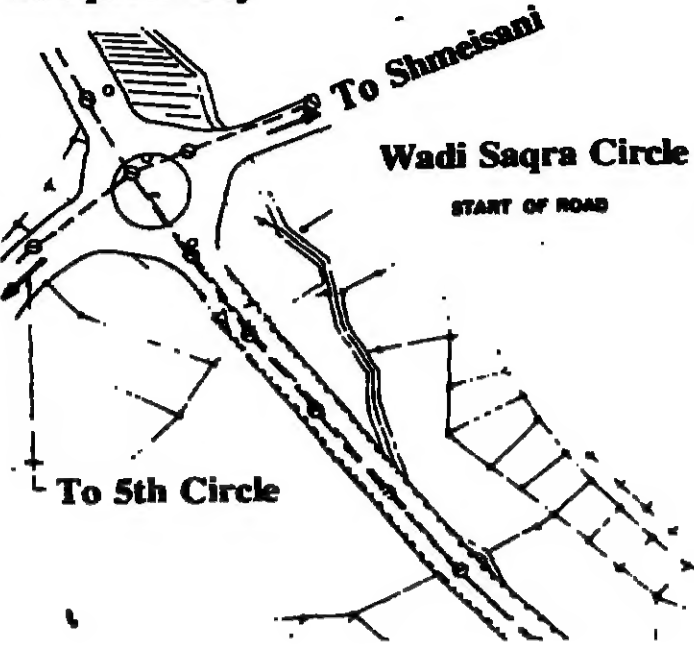
Alia cancels plan to build air terminal, headquarters at Wadi Saqra roundabout

By Ron Cathell Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, July 16—Alia, the Royal Jordanian Air Force, has been forced to cancel its plans to build an air terminal at the Wadi Saqra roundabout that would

have provided transportation to the new Queen Alia airport. The airport is being built 35 kilometres south of Amman.

To Sports City



The shaded area on the northeast corner of the roundabout shows where the air terminal was to be built for the new Queen Alia airport. A commercial complex will be built in its place.

joint project. Alia and the Development Authority originally planned to build a terminal and recreation complex at Wadi Saqra in Shmeisani. The project would also incorporate the terminal and office headquarters for Alia. Last December, Alia issued a tender inviting architectural consultants to prepare design and supervision project.

Amman, ADA immediately began work on priority projects. It now has two multi-storey parking facilities under construction in downtown Amman.

Alia and ADA had agreed on the joint project during the mayoral term of Mr. Ma'an Abu Nowar. In December, Mr. Abu Nowar was appointed minister of public works in the cabinet of the late Prime Minister Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf. Taking his place as mayor was Mr. Isam Ajlouni, former minister of labour in the cabinet of Mr. Mudar Badran.

Shortly after the changeover of the mayoral seat, the municipality expressed its disapproval of the air terminal being built on land which the municipality had requisitioned from private owners. Under the terms of requisition, the land is to be used for public purposes only.

The site at Wadi Saqra, on the northeast corner of the roundabout, running 500 metres north toward Al Hussein Youth City, was requisitioned by the municipality particularly for use as a public park and green space. Mayor Ajlouni told the Jordan Times.

ADA's plans for the site included a park, green space, playgrounds, a commercial complex and a family recreation centre.

Mr. Ajlouni said the municipality could not justify allowing the terminal and Alia headquarters on land that was intended for public use only.

When Mr. Ajlouni became mayor he was overwhelmed by government institutions, ministries, financial institutions and mosques asking him for permission to use land the municipality had requisitioned.

"I stopped that nonsense," Mr. Ajlouni said. "It is not fair to the public of Amman for this land to be used for anything except for the benefit of all." He said Alia was informed it would not be permitted to build the air terminal and office headquarters on the requisitioned land at Wadi Saqra.

Alia President Ali Ghandour was disappointed about the municipality's decision to cut Alia out of the Wadi Saqra plans. He believes the site is ideally located for the terminal because of the

crossroads, direct access to the airport road, proximity to downtown and spacious area.

"The municipality showed a keen interest in the project at first and found the location," Mr. Ghandour told the Jordan Times tonight. "But it later decided to keep the site for green space and a park."

But Alia has not dropped its plans for the air terminal. "We at Alia started this (air terminal) project," Mr. Ghandour said. "It would be unfair for the public to have to provide their



Mr. Isam Ajlouni

Syrian women invade police department

OR'S NOTE: This is one of a continuing series of articles on in Syria.

By Pat McDonnell and Samir Twair for the Jordan Times

ASCUS—The latest male invaded by women in the police force. West through the routine of existing visas from the passport office recently seen pleasantly surprised to see attractive women in blue uniforms behind the desks.

A regular male police have been polite," said one foreman, "but it's sure nice to have a woman's touch in the police

new feminine look at the offices and at the airport. It brought about in the past years. In Damascus, five women are employed in the own passport office. Three the front desk to process applications; two others work in the immigration and visa

Most say they learned about police women recruitment through advertisements on television and their parents encouraged them to enrol. When asked how they like their work, all said they enjoy it and intend to make it

a lifetime career.

"It's fun to be pioneering a new career for Syrian women," said one policewoman who joined the programme three years ago. "Now we hope to gain university degrees so that we can be promoted above the rank of lieutenant."

As for the attitude of their male

counterparts, officers on duty appeared proud of the women behind desks and commented that they're like sisters.

In reply to a query if any would marry members of the police force since they work with them daily, one young woman said no. Another, smiling shyly, said her husband is a policeman.



A new look to the passport office is provided by policewomen in their blue uniforms.



woman working in the area of the passport office in Amman.

of the international airport, others work in the clerical in of the traffic police ment. men were admitted to the police training school in Amman three years ago. A total have graduated from training and more are filling posts throughout Syria as they complete courses.

one-year theoretical and rigid training course involves same programme the men go. Women earn the same as their male counterparts. present, the highest level is what under the rank of police nant. recruitment age is 18 to 20 for unmarried high-school graduates — the same as that for men. At the one-year training women live on the pre-while taking judo, karate other physical fitness programmes while studying police sci-

May damage archaeological treasures

Building plans stir fears for Jerusalem's old wall

By David K. Shipley



Mr. Ali Ghandour

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 16—The Israeli government is on the verge of approving plans for a major construction project alongside the ancient walls of the Old City of Jerusalem despite concern by some experts in the Department of Antiquities that the walls may be undermined and archaeological treasures damaged.

The project includes building a four-lane road in an open trench along the base of the wall, as well as putting in an underpass, a modern shopping arcade and an underground parking garage and bus terminal just outside Jaffa Gate at the western sector. The wall there was constructed in the Byzantine and Ottoman eras.

The city engineer, Amnon Niv, described the project as an effort to eliminate traffic congestion and unsightly parking and a step toward preventing private cars from passing through the gate into the narrow, twisting streets of the Old City.

He said that engineering tests had been done to make sure that the wall would remain stable, and he pledged that, as usual in Jerusalem, the project would be stopped if it uncovered anything of archaeological value.

Objectivity doubted

The assurances have not satisfied Johanan Mintzker, an architect in the Department of Antiquities who is responsible for the Division of Monuments. He contended that because the engineering survey had been done for the project's development corporation, which is eager to press ahead, it lacked objectivity and thoroughness.

Furthermore, he said, it is important in making calculations to assume that the wall will be subjected to occasional earthquakes. In addition, he urged that pollution and vibration studies be made to assess the damage that traffic may do to the old stones. Jerusalem's walls have crumbled and risen in varying configurations, and this section dates from Byzantine times — 334 to 639 — and from Ottoman rule, when the last wall around the city was completed in 1542.

Mr. Mintzker said that in addition to protecting the wall, an archaeological excavation should

be undertaken before plans are approved. "The area is an archaeological area, without any doubt," he observed. "We know that in Herod's time many things went on there."

Mr. Niv, the city engineer, countered that the planning, which has been under way since shortly after Israel occupied Jerusalem in 1967, had to go ahead. "If you want financing you have to show some movement," he said. "You can't stop everything every time anybody comes up with an objection."

Aesthetic questions

The project has also encountered stiff resistance from architects and civic groups on aesthetic and planning grounds. They maintain that it will damage the famous view of the western side of the Old City near the Citadel, which Herod built shortly

before the birth of Jesus, and that it will clash with the style and the tempo of the Old City, a warren of tiny markets, stone houses, churches, synagogues and mosques.

Arthur Kutcher, a U.S.-trained architect and a spokesman for a government-subsidised civic organisation called the Council for Beautiful Israel, would like to see the road moved away from the walls and the shopping arcade eliminated.

"By putting this very heavy commercial arrow at the heart of the Old City, you increase the danger of exploding the Old City," Mr. Kutcher said. "concentrating more and more commercial activity with-in the gates and attracting bigger international investment, driving out the small shops and destroying the residential character of the Old City."

The New York Times



The walls of Old City Jerusalem in the area of the Jaffa Gate (seen above in a turn-of-the-century photograph by Bonfils) will be seriously damaged by planned Israeli construction projects.

Arab Wings renegotiates local loan for JD 2 million

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, July 16 — Arab Wings, the Amman-based executive jet charter company, has renegotiated a JD 2 million loan with a consortium of Jordanian banks and financial institutions.

The previous loan, for \$8 million, was signed in January 1979 with a consortium of seven Arab banks led by the Cairo-based Arab African International Bank.

It was to be used to finance the company's outstanding international loans and to help purchase a Sabreliner 75A aircraft for the Arab Wings fleet. That loan was for eight years at an interest of one per cent above the London inter bank offered rate (LIBOR) for the first four years, and above 1½ per cent LIBOR for the last four years. The previous loan itself had been renegotiated from loans signed in 1976 with the U.S. Crocker National Bank's London branch and Union de Banques Arabes et Francaises (UBAF) in Paris.

The new loan, signed on Monday, is for eight years, with two years' grace, at nine per cent plus one per cent management fee, instead of being based on the fluctuating London prime rate plus

one per cent. One advantage of the new loan is that the instalments will be paid in dinars rather than U.S. dollars and the money will stay in the country.

The local consortium signing the new loan comprises the Jordan Securities Corporation, the Arab Jordan Investment Bank, the Housing Bank, the Cairo-Amman Bank, Jordan National Bank, the Bank of Jordan, Petra Bank, the Syrian-Jordanian Bank, the Post Office Savings Fund, the Alia

Employees' Fund and the Arab Finance Corporation.

The loan is guaranteed by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, which owns 88 per cent of Arab Wings. The remaining 12 per cent of Arab Wings' JD 2.2 million capital is held by the government of Oman.

Arab Wings became totally independent from Alia in July 1977 and has since operated as a completely self-sufficient company.

AOAS will distribute administration papers around Arab World

AMMAN, July 16 (JNA) — The Amman-based Arab Organisation of Administrative Science (AOAS) will translate, publish and distribute in the Arab World documents, research studies, regulations and laws issued by the Brussels-based International Institute of Administrative Science (IIAS) and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA), the AOAS Director General, Dr. Abdullah Zu'bi, said here today.

He said agreement on this matter was reached during his participation in the IIAS and IASIA conferences held in Madrid on June 18.

Dr. Zu'bi, who returned from Madrid today, said the Arab Organisation submitted a working paper dealing with the general administration and development of public institutions in the Arab World. The Arab delegates explained to the two conferences the expansionist aims of Israel in the Middle East, and also blocked any participation by Israel in the conference's sub-committees.

Nearly 1,000 delegates at the conferences discussed means of promoting centres in charge of training employees in administration and developing public administration systems, Dr. Zu'bi said. He added that 12 Arab states took part in the two conferences.

TODAY'S WEATHER

There will be a drop in temperature, with some medium cloud formations. Winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	21	32
Aqaba	27	38
Deserts	23	40
Jordan Valley	25	38

The high temperature in Amman on Wednesday was 34, while that in Aqaba was 40.

CARS FOR SALE

The United Nations Development Programme office in Amman has two cars for sale: One Peugeot 504 (1975) and one Toyota Land Cruiser Station (1971), customs not paid. The cars can be seen in front of the office building at Jabal Amman, Third Circle. Bids will be accepted in sealed envelopes for one week as of this date.

For more information, call: 41202-3-4-5, Mr. Ahmad Ghadiyeh.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	374	1,270	1,250	1,250
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	565	17,600	17,500	17,500
Housing Bank	JD 1,000	500	1,980	1,970	1,970
Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	1,100	2,170	2,160	2,170
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	1,040	1,510	1,510	1,510
Dar Aldawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	1,159	3,730	3,710	3,710
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	4,412	1,850	1,850	1,850
Arab Aluminium Co.	JD 1,000	2,595	1,210	1,210	1,210
Industrial, Commercial And Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	685	3,100	3,080	3,080
Paper and Cardboard Factories	JD 1,000	600	1,270	1,250	1,250
The Islamic Bank	JD 1,000	8,667	1,870	1,820	1,820
The Arab Bank Co.	JD 10,000	240	120,000	120,000	120,000
Al Sha'b for Press and Publications	JD 1,000	1,000	0,940	0,940	0,940
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co. Ltd.	JD 1,000	55,000	1,030	1,030	1,030
International Construction and Investments	JD 1,000	2,950	0,940	0,940	0,940
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	400	0,680	0,680	0,680
National Steel Industry	JD 1,000	7,700	2,070	2,040	2,070

Total volume traded on Wednesday, July 16, 1980: JD 153,680.

Total number of shares traded: 88,987

Government Development Bonds

Year of Maturity	Par Value	Number Traded	Volume Traded	High	Low
1989	JD 10,000	300	3,000	10,000	10,000
Jordan Cement Factories Co. Bonds	JD 100,000	30	3,060	102,000	102,000
Year of Maturity 1989			6,060		
Total Bonds Traded					

GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

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Economic News Briefs

Japanese exports to Iran fall by 50%

TOKYO, July 16 (AP) — Japan's exports to Iran fell by more than 50 per cent in June compared to May, following the June 2 decision by the government to curb exports in line with European Community economic sanctions against Iran.

The finance ministry said yesterday that exports to Iran on a customs clearance basis plunged from the equivalent of \$304 million in May to \$135 million in June. However, it said that Japan's exports, primarily steel, textiles and machinery, were up 91.8 per cent from the total for June 1979.

Imports from Iran also fell sharply from \$682 million in May to \$220 million in June as a suspension of oil shipments from Iran to Japan following an April pricing dispute.

Japan had previously imported about 13 per cent of its crude oil supplies from Iran.

Saudia, Tokyo Gas plan LPG joint venture

TOKYO, July 16 (AP) — Tokyo Gas Co. of Japan said yesterday that it is negotiating with Petromin, a Saudi Arabian government-owned corporation, to import 250,000 tonnes of Saudi Arabian liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) a year.

Tokyo Gas officials said the plan calls for establishing a joint venture firm with Tokyo Gas, Shell International Gas Co. of Britain and a Saudi Arabian firm to supply LPG to the Japanese gas firm.

They declined to disclose further details, but the newspaper Tokyo Shimbun said the joint venture will be owned 60 per cent by Saudi shipper Maritime Service of Saudi Arabia and 20 per cent each by Tokyo Gas and Shell International Gas Co.

The venture, to be named Saudi Arabian International Gas Co., will produce LPG in Saudi Arabia to be carried to Japan aboard tankers operated by Shell International Gas, the newspaper said.

U.S. explains virtues of metric system

WASHINGTON, July 16 (AP) — The U.S. government has put out a 43-page directory explaining the virtues of the metric system in hopes of convincing Americans to switch from inches and pounds to metres and grammes.

Americans for the most part hold firmly to the traditional British system of inches, pounds, gallons and the Fahrenheit scale of temperature.

Mr. Louis Polk, chairman of the U.S. Metric Board, the agency that published the booklet, said in the directory's introduction that Americans have to understand metric terms in order to reach

"an intelligent, enlightened decision" on whether to endorse the metric system.

The General Accounting Office, an agency of the U.S. Congress, has issued a report saying that national policy is not to prefer one system over another — though many Americans mistakenly think that a change is legally required.

Dr. Malcolm E. O'Hagan, the executive director of the board, predicted last month that by the end of 1982 more than half the service stations in the United States will be selling gasoline by the litre. One reason is that when the price of gasoline went over one dollar a gallon — 3.8 litres — many pumps could not register the higher prices.

It costs \$200 to change many pumps to register the higher prices, but only \$50 to convert them to the metric system. Shell, a British-Dutch company, is planning to convert all its 11,000 retail outlets to litres, but others are reported to be more hesitant.

U.S. industrial output declines by 2.4%

WASHINGTON, July 16 (AP) — The United States industrial production plunged 2.4 per cent in June, the fifth monthly decline in a row, as the recession continued to spread through the economy, the government reported today.

June's severe drop follows a similar 2.4 per cent fall in May, the Federal Reserve Board said. Originally, May's decline was reported as 2.1 per cent.

The decline last month was the largest since January 1975, when production in the nation's factories, mines and mills plummeted 3.49 per cent, the Federal Reserve said. That occurred during the depths of the nation's last recession.

The continued slide in industrial production reflected "widespread reductions" in output across the economic landscape, the Federal Reserve noted.

Venezuela raises price of fuel oil

CARACAS, July 16 (AP) — Venezuela announced yesterday it is raising prices of medium-and-high-sulfur grades of heavy industrial fuel oil by as much as 80 cents a barrel. The oil is used to run electric generating stations, heat large apartment houses and fuel ships.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said in Caracas the increase takes effect Saturday and is due to "great demand" for the fuel in the United States and Europe.

Venezuela increased prices of the medium and high-sulfur "residual" fuel oil by as much as 1.20 dollars June 20 and intends to continue adjusting prices monthly, Mr. Calderon said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, July 16 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	2.3714/21	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1527/30	Canadian dollar	
	1.7427/37	West German mark	
	1.9055/65	Dutch guilders	
	1.6037/47	Swiss francs	
	27.92/94	Belgian francs	
	4.0520/40	French francs	
	830.50/831.00	Italian lire	
	218.65/80	Japanese yen	
	4.1225/35	Swedish crowns	
	4.1825/35	Norwegian crowns	
	5.4035/50	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	626.00/628.00	U.S. dollars	

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, July 16 (R) — The market closed firm with sentiment helped by the U.K. trade surplus for June and at 1500 the FT index was up 3.1 at 502.9 after a high of 504.2.

Early demand for government bonds exhausted official supplies of the treasury 12 per cent 1987 "tap" stock after which a fair amount of two way business was reported leaving net gains of up to 3/4. Equity leaders were mixed but with a firm bias, dealers added.

Gold shares rallied with the bullion price but U.S. and Canadian issues eased.

Speculation of a possible reduction in the Bank of England minimum lending rate tomorrow led to fair demand in banks where Barclays and Midland rose 25p apiece.

Gains among industrials were selective with leading issues ending narrowly mixed due to profit taking, dealers said. GEC ended 4p up while ICI closed unchanged at 380. Unilever eased 2p.

In mixed oils, Shell and Ultramar were 8p and 6p higher respectively.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

U.S. dollar	291.00/293.00	French franc	71.60/72.00
U.K. sterling	690.10/694.10	Dutch guilder	152.10/153.00
West German mark	166.30/167.30	Swedish crown	70.50/70.90
Swiss franc	180.20/181.30	Belgium franc	104.00/104.60
Italian lire		Japanese yen	132.50/133.30
(for every 100)	35.00/35.20	(for every 100)	

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll-Righter-Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to coordinate your efforts with other persons in projects that are vital to your success and happiness. Make sure your artistic qualities are fully utilized.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to be more assertive in letting associates know of your expectations and get their cooperation. Use care in motion.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Have a good talk with workers so that you can increase production. Enjoy some affair in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get in touch with friends you haven't seen in a long time and deepen relationships. Don't neglect important business matters.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Good day to get both your home and yourself polished up so that others will be impressed.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Join with good friends and come to a far better understanding. Obtain the data you need that will bring you greater success.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Gain the assistance of those with whom you have monetary dealings. Try to improve the value of your property.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Take the treatments you need that will improve your appearance. Have a happy time with friends in the evening.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Gain the favor of those who can help you get the information you need to be successful. Avoid a troublemaker.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to enlist the help of good friends for a new project you have in mind. Don't neglect to pay pressing bills.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Plan exactly how to expand where your career is concerned and get good advice from experts. Be kind to others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are able to view present situations from a different angle now and can handle them more successfully.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Try to please your mate more and add to present happiness. Make plans that can bring advancement in your career.

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On initiative in Afghanistan

Pakistan and India agree

NEW DELHI, July 16 (R) — After arriving here yesterday Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi completed two days of talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. They discussed the Afghan problem and its implications for Indo-Pakistan relations.

He said they had discussed the Islamic initiative and that the two sides were in "broad agreement that we are on the right track."

Mr. Shahi also said the climate

between Pakistan and the Soviet Union had "some what improved." A dialogue was taking place through diplomatic channels, he said.

The proposal to talk to the Karmal regime as one of several political parties in Afghanistan offered an honourable way out, he said.

Today, Mr. Shahi announced that a three-man Islamic committee seeking a peaceful solution to the Afghanistan crisis had made contact with the Marxist gov-

ernment in Kabul to determine whether there was any basis for negotiations.

Mr. Shahi told a press conference that the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organisation, Mr. Habib Chatti of Tunisia, had sent a communication to the "regime" of President Babrak Karmal and was waiting for a reply.



Mr. Agha Shahi

Mr. Chatti and Mr. Shahi are both members of the Islamic peace panel which also includes Iranian foreign minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh.

Mr. Shahi said the committee was prepared to talk to the Kabul regime in its capacity as Afghanistan's ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP), but not as a government as Islamic countries do not recognise it.

The committee was set up last April when Islamic foreign ministers met in Islamabad and called for a total withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The committee held talks with Afghan rebels in Switzerland last month but it has so far been unable to arrange a meeting with President Karmal's administration.

Mr. Shahi said the Soviet Union had informed the committee it should first talk to the Kabul regime and then hold discussions with Moscow.

the city and pressed the search for the assailants.

Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez said the attack was "an attempt to return Chile to the chaos and anarchy sought by clandestine interests."

Mr. Vergara was the second uniformed officer killed by terrorists this year in Chile.

On April 28, terrorists killed a policeman two blocks from President Augusto Pinochet's office.

The killing followed the arrest of about 500 persons by the right-wing military regime in an attempt to head off possible May Day demonstrations against the government. Some of those arrested complained they were tortured.

Last November a policeman was killed when a group armed with automatic weapons tried unsuccessfully to rob an armoured car at a Santiago supermarket.

The government blames left-wing extremists for the attacks, including the outlawed leftist Revolutionary Movement (MIR).

Authorities believe the MIR is led by Mr. Andres Pascal Allende, a nephew of the late constitutional president Mr. Salvador Allende, whose leftist government was overthrown by Gen. Pinochet.

Helicopters flew overhead as police set up checkpoints across

SANTIAGO, Chile, July 16 (AP) — Terrorists poured automatic weapons fire into a car carrying the chief of the Chilean army's intelligence school yesterday, killing the officer and wounding his driver.

The army said the car carrying Lt. Col. Roger Vergara Campos, 43, was cut off by a grey truck disguised as an electric company vehicle, and that three men in blue overalls and yellow hardhats jumped out and opened fire.

The car broke into flames after the first shots and the gunmen walked around shooting into the burning vehicle, the government-controlled Orbe agency said.

Orbe said the driver, Sgt. Mario Navarro, also died, but the report was denied by the army, which said he was in satisfactory condition. Mr. Vergara was dead on arrival at El Salvador hospital.

"Ballistics experts found nearly 30 bullet holes from a 7.65 calibre Soviet-made AKA Rifle," Orbe said.

The attack occurred in the Providencia residential area during rush-hour traffic. A large number of ranking military officers live in the area where the attack took place.

Helicopters flew overhead as police set up checkpoints across

Amnesty dismayed at U.S. help for Salvador

LONDON, July 16 (AP) — Amnesty International has written to U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie expressing "dismay" at promised U.S. security assistance to El Salvador.

The Nobel peace prize-winning

international human rights group said the assistance offered could worsen what it called the murder and torture of peasants and opponents of the country's government.

Since early January, when much

of the Salvadorian government resigned over the issue of human rights violations, "at least 2,000 Salvadorians have been killed or 'disappeared' while in the hands of conventional and auxiliary security forces," the letter said.

"Many were tortured and savagely mutilated," the letter cites Salvadorian church sources as saying that those killed are merely presumed to be associated with political opposition groups or trade unions.

"Given all this, it is indeed reasonable to expect that assistance intended to improve the operational capabilities of the Salvadorian security system... will contribute to worsen the human rights situation in that country," the letter said.

The letter urged Mr. Muskie to reconsider the assistance programme which has been sent to Congress for approval.

The assistance, proposed for fiscal 1981, involves \$5.5 million worth of U.S. equipment and training, Amnesty said, adding this would strengthen the Salvadorian military in its internal security operations.

Mr. Kissinger also pronounced Mr. Reagan a competent leader in foreign affairs who would "behave responsibly and fruitfully" in the White House.

Mr. Kissinger said he did not come to see Mr. Reagan to discuss future employment in a new Republican administration. "I'm not here as a job-seeker," he said, adding that he might be interested later.

Mr. Reagan, however, has promised that one person he will not name as a secretary of state is Mr. Henry Kissinger.

Meanwhile in the first Soviet comment on the U.S. Republican Party convention, a weekly newspaper asserted yesterday that the party advanced a platform "regarded as extremely reactionary and openly belligerent."

Literaturnaya Gazeta said the "essence" of the party programme could not be hidden behind "appealing speeches" or "the usual promises" or behind the scene clashes between moderates and extremists.

A promise by Republican presidential candidate Mr. Ronald Reagan to cut taxes is unfulfillable, the newspaper said, because of his intention "to drastically increase the inflated military budget" which already is too heavy a burden for U.S. citizens.

Many American voters are ready to cast a vote for anyone just to see changes in the United States following "the failed course of the current Carter administration," a commentator wrote from Detroit.

Mr. Reagan's campaign managers count "on the extreme dissatisfaction of the broad masses of the population with the Carter administration that is viewed by many, including representatives of big business, as a total bankrupt," he wrote.

But the report concluded that Mr. Reagan's conservatism does not suit everyone in the Republican Party, and that he has tried hard to dispel a reactionary image.

World News Briefs

MALAGA, Spain, July 16 (AP) — An estimated crowd of 30,000 demonstrated through main streets here yesterday to protest against the terrorism of the Basque separatist organisation ETA. The demonstration was headed by a puppet representing a terrorist hanged from a gallows and with Basque flag on the chest, portered by marchers who burned it at the end of the March. The demonstration had been called by the ultra-right political party "Fuerza Nueva" (New Force).

GENEVA, July 16 (R) — The European Economic Community (EEC) and the east European Comecon group are still a long way from resolving major differences over a proposed cooperation pact, EEC delegation leader Mr. Louis Kawan said today. Mr. Kawan, from the nine-nation EEC's executive commission, told reporters there was no prospect that experts from both sides would remove the obstacles during a two-day meeting they began in Geneva today.

ISTANBUL, July 16 (AP) — Two soldiers and a state employee died today in a heat wave with temperatures of up to 48 degrees in southwestern Turkey, sources said. Nine other soldiers were hospitalised and a health official asked an army commander to halt drills in the sweltering heat, the sources said. The state employee died in a hospital, the sources said. Details were not available.

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast, July 16 (AP) — A rabies epidemic has broken out in this west African capital of more than 1 million people, city officials said yesterday. Medical authorities said 143 persons were treated for rabies through vaccination last month but none of the cases was fatal. The mayor decreed that as of yesterday it was prohibited to walk dogs, cats, monkeys and other pets in public places unless they were on a leash and wearing muzzles.

Libya paid Billy Carter in a campaign to show U.S. Middle East policy wrong

NICOSIA, July 16 (R) — A senior Libyan leader, asked about the Libyan loan to President Carter's brother Billy, said today his government was trying to convince Americans that U.S. policy in the Middle East was wrong.

But Libyan Foreign Secretary Ali Abdel Salam Tureiki declined to comment directly on the \$220,000 loan at a press conference in Nicosia, at the end of a three-day visit to Cyprus.

Asked whether other Americans were receiving money from

Libya, he said: "We have contacts at a popular level with many Americans with the aim of finding mutual understanding between the two peoples, and informing the American people about the reality of the situation in the Middle East."

"This is one of our efforts to inform the American people about the wrong policy that their government is following in the Middle East."

Asked about the loan to Mr. Carter, Mr. Tureiki said: "We are

As express crashes with goods train

Sixteen people killed Spanish train collision

MADRID, July 16 (R) — Sixteen people were killed and more than 20 injured when a passenger express crashed into a stationary goods train in central Spain after a violent thunderstorm put railway signals out of action, officials said today.

The sleek red and silver Talgo express, pride of Spanish railways, slammed into the freight

train at the village station of Torralba del Moral last night as it sped from Barcelona to Madrid.

"According to information obtained at the scene of the crash, there was a power cut, caused by a violent storm, which put out the signals," the state railway company said in a statement.

According to regulations the train should then have stopped but

the Talgo went through the red signal and collided with the goods train.

One of the 13 dead was a woman, Mrs. Ruben Drake, from Texas, who was travelling with her husband.

Another American, Mr. Hanson from California, was killed and his wife, Robert Hanson, was injured.

Rhodes demonstrates against Turkey Cypriot leaders agree to talks in Lib

RHODES, Greece, July 16 (Agencies) — Twenty-eight people were injured in demonstrations by residents of this Greek holiday island against the arrival of a Turkish ferry boat, police said today.

The clashes occurred late last night after police tried to disperse about 3,000 islanders who prevented the ferry Tzemlik from docking in Rhodes harbour.

The Tzemlik was the first ferry

to resume the sea link between Marmaris in southwest Turkey and Rhodes, suspended in 1974 after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus brought Greece and Turkey close to war.

The islanders refused to open their shops and serve the ship's passengers, saying they were angered by Turkey's continued occupation of northern Cyprus.

Demonstrators threw stones at the Tzemlik and cut its moorings, forcing the vessel to anchor outside Rhodes harbour. The ship left for Turkey early today.

A police spokesman said 26 of those injured were policemen. Eight demonstrators were arrested and would appear in court tomorrow, he added.

A statement by the Greek government condemned the incidents and described the demonstrators as "irresponsible" persons. It said the sea link was part of a Greek-Turkish tourist cooperation agreement signed in 1979.

The incident occurred one day after Turkish Airlines resumed regular flights to Greece using the air corridors over the Aegean Sea that have been closed for six years.

Resumption of the flights was made possible when both Greece and Turkey last February lifted a ban over the Aegean for commercial airlines.

Meanwhile in Nicosia, the Greek and Turkish communities agreed to a Libya later this month to solve their problem, Libyan Foreign Secretary Ali Abdel Tureiki said today.

Dr. Tureiki, who had told Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash, told a news conference the meeting was under the auspices of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim.

He added that Libyan Colonel Muammar Qaddafi would take an active part in the talks.

In a written statement after a final session with Tureiki today, President Kyprianou said he was ready to part in talks in Tripoli "with mission of the good office under the auspices of the secretary-general and the secretary-general consider appropriate."

Dr. Tureiki said he was "happy" at the confidence by Mr. Kyprianou and Mr. Denktash in his efforts. He said the meeting was arranged by the leaders in Washington, but he hoped it take place before the end year.

Thousands flee from Chad to Cameroon

GENEVA, July 16 (R) — Red Cross workers remaining in the war-torn Chad capital of N'djamena are paying boatmen to ferry survivors from the civil war across the Chari river to Cameroon, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said here.

Tens of thousands of Chad nationals have fled the capital to seek refuge at Kousseri in Cameroon where the United Nations and other relief agencies have set up reception camps.

The ICRC said that during May and June Red Cross delegates had to evacuate zones controlled by both the rival armies of President

Goukouni Oueddei and the defence minister Mr. Habyarimana because of shell fire from some of the African staff behind to look for survivors.

The ICRC said assistance still being given in the zone controlled by Mr. Habyarimana's forces the evacuation from the ICRC delegates on June 19.

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Addis Ababa last month agreed to further attempt should be made to establish an African peacekeeping force in Chad.

Mrs. Gandhi says no nuclear explosion except for peace

NEW DELHI, July 16 (R) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said today India had no plans at present to explode another nuclear device.

But she told parliament that if the need to carry out an explosion for peaceful purposes arose, "we shall go ahead with it."

India exploded its first and only nuclear device in 1974 when Mrs. Gandhi, voted back to office last January, was Prime Minister.

She has repeatedly said that India was totally opposed to nuclear weapons, but never ruled out nuclear explosions for peaceful development purposes.

In a written reply to questions the Lok Sabha (lower house) Mrs. Gandhi said today India cooperation agreements to peaceful use of atomic energy 18 countries.

None of these agreements so far resulted in a transfer of nuclear technology, she said.

Mrs. Gandhi named 12 countries as Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, Iraq, Italy, Libya, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, the United States, West Germany and Yugoslavia.

CONVENTION '80

Kissinger slams Carter's 'diplomacy of incoherence'

DETROIT, July 16 (AP) — Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger indicted President Jimmy Carter's foreign policy at the Republican national convention with an attack that some conservative delegates might well have launched at the former secretary of state himself.

But the conservatives, although still resenting Mr. Kissinger's policy of détente with the Soviets, politely cheered his call last night for strong and steady foreign leadership under Mr. Ronald Reagan.

Some Kissinger detractors had raised the possibility of booing him during his address. But any initial feelings of contempt turned into disinterest and restlessness by the time Mr. Kissinger reached the podium at midnight to attack Mr. Carter's "diplomacy of incoherence."

"We are here to put an end to drift, confusion, retreat and weakness in our foreign policy," Mr. Kissinger told a chattering crowd of speech-weary delegates in the final oration of yesterday's seven-hour session. "Another four years like the last four will make disaster irretrievable."

"The Carter administration has managed the extraordinary feat of having at one and the same time the worst relations with our allies, the worst relations with our adversaries and the most serious upheavals in the developing world since the end of the Second World War," he said.

Mr. Kissinger, who managed foreign affairs for Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, said a new president is needed "to restore steadiness and coherence to our foreign policy."

"The trustee of our hopes," he said, is Mr. Reagan, the man Mr. Kissinger declined to support until Mr. Reagan emerged as the certain Republican presidential candidate.

Earlier, Mr. Kissinger conferred briefly with Mr. Reagan and then told reporters that his and the candidate's foreign policy

views are "compatible."

Mr. Kissinger also pronounced Mr. Reagan a competent leader in foreign affairs who would "behave responsibly and fruitfully" in the White House.

Mr. Kissinger said he did not come to see Mr. Reagan to discuss future employment in a new Republican administration. "I'm not here as a job-seeker," he said, adding that he might be interested later.

Mr. Reagan, however, has promised that one person he will not name as a secretary of state is Mr. Henry Kissinger.

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Mr. Reagan's campaign managers count "on the extreme dissatisfaction of the broad masses of the population with the Carter administration that is viewed by many, including representatives of big business, as a total bankrupt," he wrote.

But the report concluded that Mr. Reagan's conservatism does not suit everyone in the Republican Party, and that he has tried hard to dispel a reactionary image.

Anderson talks

PARIS, July 16 (R) — U.S. presidential challenger John Anderson discussed the international oil crisis with French Prime Minister Raymond Barre yesterday, and they agreed about the need for reduction of America's oil consumption.

They also discussed the need for long-term industrial planning, the future of the Atlantic alliance, Afghanistan, the Middle East and other world problems.

"I found to my pleasant surprise that Prime Minister Barre and I are on the same wavelength, as we

policy in Paris

say in the United States, on the importance of doing something to reduce the consumption of imported oil in the United States," Mr. Anderson told reporters on leaving the prime minister's office.

Mr. Anderson, a Republican congressman who is running for president as an independent, flew here from West Germany.

He will not see President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, although he asked for an appointment, his aides said. "The Elysee Palace has so far not responded to our request," one of his aides said.

Man held for 'threat to Carter'

SAN FRANCISCO, July 16 (AP) — A man sought by the U.S. secret services for threatening to kill President Jimmy Carter — and whose Texas apartment contained a cache of rifles and pistols — has been arrested in San Jose, Federal agents said yesterday.

Mr. Majid Ahmad Khamis, 21, was taken into custody without a struggle at a friend's home by secret service agents and San Jose police, authorities said.

U.S. magistrate Mr. Steele Langford set Mr. Khamis' bail at \$1 million and scheduled another hearing on July 24 to determine when he would be taken back to Dallas, Texas.

However, a short time later Mr. Khamis waived a removal hearing and agreed to be returned to Texas to face the federal charge.

His attorney, assistant federal public defender Mr. Harry Hellerstein told the magistrate that Mr. Khamis said he "is not guilty of the charge (threatening the life of the president), has been falsely accused and is willing to go back to Texas and contest the charges."

Mr. Hellerstein also said outside the court that Mr. Khamis related he had "and has no affiliation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation."

'Tibetan rights come first; China's policy was wrong'

By Victoria Graham

China has taken another step in its campaign to woo the Dalai Lama back to Tibet from his exile in India.

PEKING — The "God King" fled in 1959 during an insurrection against the Chinese who invaded and took control of Tibet nine years before.

The latest move toward reconciliation came with the announcement carried by the official news agency Xinhua that three Tibetan patriots who died of illnesses after being persecuted in 1964 had been "rehabilitated" and that 300 Tibetan religious leaders and members of other nationalities had been honoured at a reception on July 8 in Lhasa, the Tibetan capital.

The reception was sponsored by the Communist Party central committee and the state council's

minorities affairs commission, Xinhua added.

Among the guests, it said, were two relatives of the Dalai Lama and his personal doctor.

The patriots who were "rehabilitated" and praised for their contributions "to the peaceful liberation of Tibet and socialist construction there" were identified as Zhaidong Jiejing, an administrator, Nguqu Losangguo, a scripture teacher, and Tontgyai Soimamdje, member of a regional committee.

Two delegations of Tibetans in exile recently arrived in the Tibet Autonomous Region — its official name since 1951 — to investigate education and other conditions. They were the third and fourth delegations sent by the Dalai Lama.

One group of educational experts was led by the Dalai Lama's sister. Another included religious leaders and representatives of the Dalai Lama's government-in-exile.

China would like the Dalai



LHASA: Gymnastic session in a primary school at the foot of the Potala, castle of the God-Kings. The Chinese authorities now advocate freedom of religion but not propagation of religious beliefs. (Gamma photo)

Lama to return to increase unity in the region where minorities have suffered under previous Chinese policies.

Mr. Yang Jingren, an official of the Tibetan United Front from

Peking, was quoted by Xinhua as telling the July 8 gathering that Tibetans play a vital and progressive role in democratic reform, economic development and construction in Tibet.

"We hope to unite all who can be united and win over all forces that can be won so as to build a united, prosperous and civilised new Tibet," Mr. Yang was quoted as saying in his toast.

China has admitted that its minorities policies have failed, especially in Tibet. It announced a sweeping programme to rectify past mistakes and improve the conditions in Tibet, its poorest region.

In May, China also admitted that life in Tibet had not improved since the 1966-76 cultural revolution of Chairman Mao Tse-Tung.

Tibet has been flooded with Han Chinese and many of them suppressed Tibetan customs, agriculture, handicraft and religion, the Chinese Communist Party said.

Chinese leaders also have said Tibet does not have true autonomy that not enough Tibetan cadres are promoted, and that few Han Chinese bothered to learn the Tibetan language.

Today, however, China says

even more money must be put into Tibet to improve the standard of living. It now maintains the rights of individual Tibetans come first and Chinese must not be blindly imposed.

Religion is an especially sensitive topic in Tibet — thousands of temples were destroyed during the cultural revolution.

China now advocates freedom of religion — but not the agitation of religious beliefs.

Fighting still goes on in Sichuan province. He said fighting is between factions of the Chinese and Tibetan. On each side, he said, both Tibetans and Chinese have the largest portion of Tibetans in China.

Tibet. Young Chinese in Sichuan said they dread possible movement to Tibet because of conditions and strained relations with its people.

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